

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly amend the specification, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

Please delete the paragraph on page 25, lines 7-13, and replace it with the following paragraph:

The promoter and terminator used in the present invention are particularly preferably those involved in expression of HU gene (**DNA sequence is disclosed as SEQ ID NO: 1, Amino acid sequence is disclosed as SEQ ID NO: 4**) that is expressed inherently highly in *B. longum*. Specifically, it is preferable that the DNA containing the DNA located in the 1- to 192-positions in SEQ ID NO: 1 is used as the promoter and the DNA in the 472- to 600-positions in SEQ ID NO: 1 as the terminator.